

Message Text

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52

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3723

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUJUMBURA 0392

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, BY, ET

SUBJECT: BIO DATA NDABANIWE

REF STATE 59270

1. FOR INFORMATION REGARDING NEW BURUNDI AMBASSADOR TO US JOSEPH NDABANIWE, SEE BUJUMBURA 1358 (NOV 17, 72) AND 284. COPY OF GRB NOTE WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FORWARDED AF/ C NOVEMBER 17.

2. ON THE WHOLE WE ARE DEALING HERE WITH ONE OF MORE RAPIDLY RISEN YOUNG MEMBERS OF TUTSI ESTABLISHMENT. BORN IN 1940 AND GRADUATING IN 1965 WITH DEGREE IN ECONOMICS FROM UNIVERSITE LIBRE IN BRUSSELS, NDABANIWE ACHIEVED RANK OF MINISTER AT AGE OF 26, BECAME MINISTER OF FINANCE AT 27, AND AMBASSADOR TO ETHIOPIA AND OAU AT 30. A NATIVE OF GITEGA PROVINCE, HE DOES NOT SEEM TO BE CLOSELY CONNECTED WITH BURURI GROUP WHICH PLAYED LEADING ROLE IN REPRESSION OF HUTUS LAST YEAR AND IN MORE RADICAL POSTURING OF BURUNDI GOVERNMENT. HE WAS OF COURSE ON ASSIGNMENT IN ADDIS ADABA DURING EVENTS, THOUGH I SEEM TO RECALL HE RETURNED TO BUJUMBURA FOR BRIEFINGS BEFORE I LEFT ADDIS IN JUNE. HIS ENGLISH IMPROVED MARKEDLY DURING HIS STAY IN ADDIS ABABA. PERSONALLY, HE IS CHARMING, SOFT SPOKEN AND, WHILE NOT GIVING ANYTHING AWAY ON GRB POLICY MATTERS, GIVES APPEARANCE OF MORE INSIGHT INTO NUANCES OF HUMAN AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS THAN WAS CASE WITH

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HIS PREDECESSOR.

3. MY RELATIONSHIPS WITH NDABANIWE IN ADDIS WERE CORRECT AAND PERSONALLY FRIENDLY. EMBASSY ADDIS HAD OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS OF CONDITION OF HIS YOUNGEST CHILD WHO TURNED OUT TO HAVE PROBLEM BOTH OF MONGOLISM AND CLUB FOOT WHICH WAS LATER TREATED IN ISRAEL. AMBASSADOR SAYS CHILD IS PROGRESSING AS WELL AS CAN BE EXPECTED AND WILL ACCOMPANY HIM AND WIFE ALONG WITH OTHER TWO CHILDREN TO US.

4. MRS. NDAGANIWE (AGNES) IS LISTED AS HAVING BEEN ACTIVE IN WOMEN' S PARTY AFFAIRS UP UNTIL 1967. LAST NOTATION SHOWS HER AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF WOMEN' S AFFAIRS IN THE MAISON DU PARTI IN NOVEMBER 1967. SHE WAS QUITE OUTGOING AND FRIENDLY IN ADDIS ABABA. INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, SHE APPEARED TO BE CLOSER TO RWANDAN AMBASSADOR' S WIFE THAN TO OTHER MEMBERS DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY.

5. WILL FORWARD ANY FURTHER PERTINENT BIO IF IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.
YOST

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